

Request for Economic Stimulus Funds

Concept Proposal

Submitters (Name of Workgroup & Chair/Co-Chairs):

Technology & Networking – Al Lind Chair

Digital Repositories - Enid Wohlstein, Co-Team Captain, Miko Pattie, Co-Team Captain

Project Title: Digital Repositories: Statewide Institutional Repository and Kentuckiana Digital Library Expansion

Project Partners (Known or Anticipated):

- Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives
- Kentucky Department of Education (the K-12 public schools)
- Public Postsecondary – 8 universities, 16 community and technical colleges
- Kentucky Adult Education
- Kentucky's Public Libraries

Project Background & Purpose (Justification for Project):

Kentucky Virtual Library functions as a consortial hub of libraries throughout Kentucky. By encouraging collaboration between libraries and partners in education, KYVL provides all Kentuckians access to a core collection of digital resources, including research databases covering a broad range of disciplines and content types from primary sources to popular- and peer-reviewed journals. KYVL delivers information and research content regardless of geographic location, supporting both classroom and distance learning and Kentucky's broader needs for working and living. KYVL's mission is that all Kentuckians will have equitable access to quality library and information resources.

This funding request covers two projects: the creation of a statewide institutional repository system and the expansion of the existing Kentuckian Digital Library. The institutional digital repository project will establish a statewide, shared database that will store, provide access for, and preserve digital objects, papers and other intellectual product of Kentucky scholars. The project builds a statewide consortium to create a repository and support center to assist our scholars with producing their research and negotiate with publishers. Kentucky needs the infrastructure in place to help support top level researchers. The Kentuckiana Digital Library expansion project will triple the capacity of the existing program for two years, and fund grants, training and equipment to help Kentucky libraries and universities improve access to Kentucky's unique cultural holdings. Resulting digital assets will be integrated into KYVL's Kentuckiana Digital Library. The project will provide start-up funds for institutions and libraries to initiate their own digitization programs, launch mobile scanning labs, and create "digital cooperatives" geographically placed to best serve the Commonwealth.

Project Description (General Goals & Implementation Strategies):

Statewide Institutional Repository (IR)

University faculty, departments, and colleges are producing more digital content than ever before. This content may be stored on servers across campuses, maintained on departmental websites or stashed on flash drives. Regardless of where the digital content resides, there is a serious risk that the content may

disappear over time due to data corruption or failure to execute data migrations. As a result, universities across the United States now recognize the need to collect, manage, and preserve the cultural, intellectual, and scholarly memory of their respective communities.

An open access repository that preserves and makes available the intellectual output of the university is a powerful thing: It brings into harmony the goals of the various stakeholders. Scholars want to certify and evaluate new research, and they want to collaborate within research communities. Universities want to create vibrant repositories that showcase and preserve their faculty's research. The open access community (and research funders) seeks more open access to content in ways that make that content accessible to citizens. By aligning all of these objectives, a repository will unite the intellectual capital of Kentucky's universities and makes it available in perpetuity to the public.

In 2008, The Association of Research Libraries (ARL) published "The Role of Research Libraries in Digital Repository Services" outlining the need of collaborative digitization programs. ARL stated: "Digital repositories are developing rapidly as a key element of research cyberinfrastructure. Even when research institutions are grappling with difficult budget decisions in the current economic environment, they need to have a strategy for providing repository services."

The scholarly repository has the potential to collect and showcase the intellectual output of Kentucky scholars for use by students, citizens, and other scholars worldwide. By doing this, Kentucky empowers both the universities, by building the infrastructure for competition on a national level, and also the students, faculty and citizens, by increasing the source documents available for their use in research and learning.

KYVL is poised to make this unique collective scholarly output of the Commonwealth's state- supported university faculty available through a proposed KYVL digital repository.

A digital repository offers several benefits for KYVL institutions:

- Showcases Kentucky collective universities' research accomplishments
- Promotes Kentucky universities and scholars
- Increases access to Kentucky universities' intellectual capital
- Enables collaborative research and communication among Kentucky scholars
- Preserves digital resources generated by Kentucky universities

Kentuckiana Digital Library and Digital Cooperatives

The Kentuckiana Digital Library is designed and built to enhance scholarship, research and lifelong learning through the establishment of access to shared digital archival collections in the state of Kentucky. It also provides guidance and instruction for Kentucky libraries, archives, historical societies and museums on applying appropriate technologies used in the production of digital library resources. Since KDL's launch in April 2002, 1000's of digital collections produced have become invaluable to researchers and scholars within Kentucky and beyond.

Many small collections are housed in libraries or locations where packing and shipping materials is impossible due to lack of staff or funding for extraneous expenses. Kentucky Virtual Library, through KDL, can assist owners of these small collections through the mobile lab. Many collections are also subject to damage due to inappropriate handling or storage, lack of climate-controlled environments, flooding, etc. Our hidden collections and cultural identity must be saved through digitization, added to the historical record, and made available online to researchers.

With its current funding and staff numbers, Kentuckiana Digital Library has reached its capacity to handle new projects and seek out new collections around the Commonwealth. An expansion of services via this federal funding is urgently needed. Kentucky also has hundreds of small collections of local history, genealogy, church records, historical society records and private family papers that are gems of Kentucky history, waiting to be exposed to researchers. Some institutions and libraries need start-up funding to initiate their own digitization programs and we intend to fund strategically placed “digital cooperatives” for this purpose. KYVL intends to offer single year, or two-year project grants. KDL would also need additional staff to coordinate the grants and lend digital technology support to grant sites and the central repository site at the University of Kentucky.

Kentuckiana Digital Library, Two-Year Capacity Increase - Production Increase:

- 200,000 additional historic newspaper pages
- 500 additional oral history interviews
- 100,000 still photographs
- 100,000 book pages

Regional Digital Cooperatives (3 sites) – Production Estimate:

Each center would produce 100,000 digital objects of chosen types.

Time Staging - could procure and hire immediately and complete production over the course of 2 years.

Project Team (Project Manager(s), Content Experts, Instructional Designers, etc.):

Key library personnel from all 8 public postsecondary universities, the community & technical college system and the University Press of Kentucky.

Leverage existing KYVL volunteer workgroup of content experts and hire additional FTE for project implementation, including project specialists, programmers, image specialists, etc. as outlined in the budget below.

New staff would receive training, potentially pursue online associate degrees in archive/museum studies via the community college system, and each participating partner would have two to three years specialty experience in institutional and/or digital repositories.

Project Budget & Amount of Economic Stimulus Funds Requested:

Institutional Repository:	\$1,289,000
Turn-key hosted application, including training and support for 3 years:	\$807,000
Staff, 2 new FTE for 3 years:	\$312,000
Operating Expenses, Travel:	\$170,000
 Kentuckiana Digital Library Expansion (3X capacity for two years):	 \$1,617,000
Staff (10 new FTE for three years):	\$748,000
Equipment (servers, workstations, cameras, scanners):	\$619,000
Operating Expenses:	\$250,000
 Kentuckiana Digital Library – 3 Regional Digital Cooperatives:	 \$1,530,000
Staff (9 new FTE over two years):	\$520,000
Equipment (servers, computers):	\$450,000
Operating Expenses (two years):	\$560,000